U.S.FOREST SERVICE ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Chief, Forest Service March 9, 1945

FRANK C.W.POOLER, Regional Forester, By

S, CONTROL, Insect, R-3 - Annual Report - C.Y. 1944

The Forest Supervisors' annual reports on forest insect damage and reports from individual Forest officers travelling through the region indicate that conditions were normal during the 1944 season, except as shown in the following:

The following forests: Coconino, Crook, Gila, Lincoln and Sitgreaves report that damages within their boundaries from all classes of forest insects were normal or below normal during 1944.

No control projects have been carried on during the past year.

Barkbeetles (Dendroctonus, Ips and Pityophthorus)

Reports from the Apache, Carson, Cibola, Kaibab, Prescott, Tonto and Santa Fe Forests show that damage from barkbeetles was normal for the year, except as follows:

There was an infestation caused by a small barkbeetle in the ponderosa and pinon pine types north of Luna, New Mexico, on the Apache Forest. Specimen branches were collected and sent to Dr. M. D. Wygant, Entomologist, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, for identification and information on control. There were very few of the adult beetles present when the branch specimens were collected. Dr. Wygant reported on the specimens as follows: "The injury is caused by a small barkbeetle - Pityophthorus sp. This is a large genus and most of the species work in the twigs of dying trees. In this particular case the species seems to be primary, as indicated by the pitch tube and the heavy resining at the point of entrance." The infested area will be examined during the coming field season to determine if the infestation is increasing and conditions found will be reported to Dr. Wygant.

The infestation of barkbeetles - Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopk. reported during 1942 and 1943 in the Agua Caliente drainage within the Carson Forest and on the Rancho del Rio Grande Grant has subsided. The report from the Carson is as follows: "The Agua Caliente drainage was observed in May, June and November, but no group killing was found. Areas in which the infestation was expected to produce these groups were inspected quite thoroughly, but apparently the broods seen in October, 1943, had been 'pitched-out'. Only an occasional tree was found that

had been killed this year. It appears as if the Agua Caliente Project of 1942, had aided in reducing the barkbeetles of this area to normal numbers."

The report from the Kaibab Forest indicates that conditions in regard to Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopk. barkbeetles are normal in that forest north of the Grand Canyon.

Killing of groups of ponderosa pine by barkbeetles has been reported by Ranger Newton of the Jicarilla Ranger District of the Carson Forest. These groups are located west of Laguna Seca on Pound Brothers' old sale area. The area and groups will be examined this spring or early summer if travel and manpower are available.

Many of the forests report that Ips are continuing to kill in groups small poles, saplings and reproduction of ponderosa pine on timber sale areas. Ips have also in some places attacked and killed pinon pine in the vicinity of sawtimber sale areas. Ips damage, however, has been about normal for the year. The reports from the Prescott and Tonto Forests show that Ips infestations of last year have subsided and conditions have become normal again.

Tip Moth (Rhyacionia sp.)

The Carson Forest reports an unidentified tip moth infesting pinon pine stands east of the Rio Vallecitos in the vicinity of Taos Junction in T 25 N, Rs. 9 and 10 E, N.M.P.M. This infestation was quite severe. Tip moth in ponderosa pine was about normal this year.

Spruce Budworm (Cacoecia (Archips) fumiferana Clem.)

Spruce budworm infestations were reported as in the epidemic stage on the Carson Forest, especially on the Amarilla Division and on areas of the Rio Pueblo Ranger District. Damage by spruce budworm is reported as normal on the Sandia District of the Cibola and on the Pecos drainage of the Santa Fe.

Aspen Leaf Roller (Archips conflictana Walker)

The Carson reports light defoliation of many of the aspen stands on the Amarilla Division of the forest by leaf rollers, and heavy on the Rio Pueblo District. The Santa Fe reports that defoliation of many aspen stands while heavy during 1943, have subsided doing little damage during 1944.

3-Chief-March 9, 1945

Great Basin Tent Caterpillar (Malacosoma fragilis)

The tent caterpillar infestation on the Carson and Santa Fe Forests have subsided and very little damage was done by defoliating the aspen stands during the year. The Cibola Forest reports a heavy infestation of the caterpillars in the Mt. Taylor area. Several brief examinations were made by Supervisor Wang of the Santa Fe Forest of areas in the Big Tesuque Canyon drainage where the parasitic flies (Compsilura concinata) and the predator beetles (Calosoma sycophanta) were liberated during 1942. No beetles or flies were found. A more thorough inspection of the area will be made, if possible, during this year to determine if these parasites and predators have survived and established themselves.

Matsucoccus Scale

The report from the Prescott Forest states that damage from the Matsucoccus scale was heavy during early spring, but very little damage appeared later in the year.

Miscellaneous Forest Insects

Forester David O. Scott reports finding an occasional pine butterfly (Neophasia menapia Felder) on the Rio Pueblo Ranger District on the Carson Forest and on the Rancho del Rio Grande Grant. He also reports finding the Southwestern tiger moth (Halisidota ingens Hy. Edw.) in the pinon pine stands on the Rio Pueblo Ranger District south of Taos, New Mexico, and on the Canjilon Ranger District southeast of Chama, New Mexico.

No inspections or examinations were made in the Region during the year by entomologists from the Bureau of Entomology.

George M. Kimball

RCSalton:ASG

OR